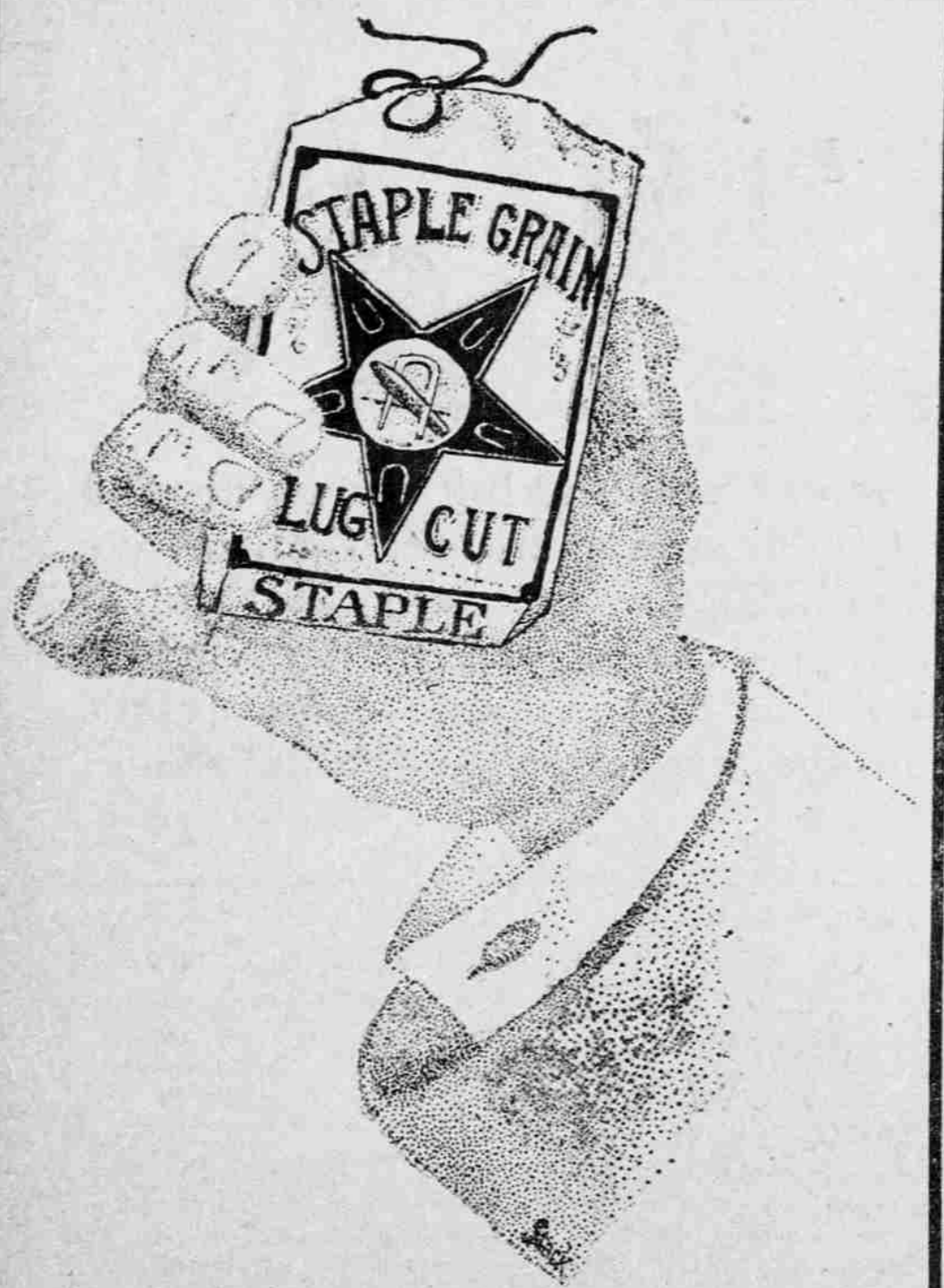


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## CAPTAIN GEORGE C. BECKLEY



Captain George C. Beckley, an English sea-captain, who came to these islands in the early part of this century, was no doubt the maker, and in all probability the designer of the first Hawaiian flag. He brought to the islands a vessel, which was purchased by the chiefs, and was called "Humehume" by the natives. He afterwards made numerous voyages between Hawaii and Mexico on one side and China on the other. According to the family tradition, he made the first flag in 1806 or 1807.

Prof. W. D. Alexander is of the opinion that the correct date is at least six years later. Unfortunately his log-book, which might settle the question, was lost about the year 1887. It is certain that he afterwards made the original flag into a child's frock, which was worn by each one of his children in succession, and was long preserved as an heirloom in the family.

On the occasion of the birth of the Princess Nahienaena at Keauhou, Kona, Hawaii, in 1815, he was made a high chief by Kamehameha I., so that he might with impunity enter the sacred precinct, and present the royal infant with a roll of China silk, after which he went outside, and fired a salute of thirteen guns in her honor. In consequence of his having become a tabu chief, his wife, Ahia, was thenceforth obliged by the ancient code of etiquette to "kolokolo" or crawl prone on hands and knees, when she entered the house of her lord.

Capt. Beckley was the first commander of the Honolulu fort, which was built in 1816. His oldest child, William Beckley, who was born at Keauhou in 1815, was brought up together with Kauikoaouli, who was afterwards known as Kamehameha III. His two oldest daughters, together with the twin daughters of Jean Rives, were brought up by Queen Kaahumanu.

These facts are mentioned to show the estimation in which he was held by Kamehameha I., and the probability that the king would confide to him the task of designing the new national flag. He died in Honolulu in the year 1825.

Some of the traditions regarding his wife's family are worthy of being preserved. Ahia was the daughter of Kaha, a warrior and Kahuna Kalaiwaa, (i. e. a priest who superintended the building of canoes) and of Makaloa, daughter of Malulani (k) and of Kelehuna (w) of Puna, Hawaii.

After the battle of Nuuanu, (which was commonly called "Kalelekaanae," i. e. the leap of the anae or mullet, in derision of the poor wretches who were driven over the Pali), Kamehameha gave him the surname of Huha. After returning to Hawaii, Kaha superintended the building of the famous "peleleu" fleet of war canoes in the forest back of Hilo.

Kaha's father, Kaha-kuaika by name, was a Kohala chief, and had the honor to be guardian of Keliimaikai, Kamehameha's younger brother, about the middle of the nineteenth century. The tradition relates that upon one occasion, when in accordance with the regulations of the tabu system, his wife was secluded in the hale-pe'a, he was led by the great longing for her society, to transgress the law so far as to creep up to the tabu hut and look in. His ward, the little prince, followed him, and climbed upon his neck. Unfortunately some of his people saw it, and raised an outcry that the prince was "haunia" or ceremonially polluted. In order to avert the dire consequences of this violation of the tabu, Kaha's two wives were ordered to bathe, deck themselves with "leis" or garlands, and then drink poisoned awa. Thus were the angry deities appeased by the sacrifice of these unoffending women, while the real culprit went scot-free.

## "HAWAII PONOI."

National Hymn of the Hawaiian Monarchy and Republic.

Hawaii ponoi,  
Isles of the summer sea  
Fanned by the trade winds free.  
Hawaii nei.  
Grandly thine heights aspire,  
Wondrous thy heart of fire,  
Deep-toned the sounding lyre  
Thy surf-waves play.

Hawaii ponoi,  
God's blessing o'er thee be,  
God's love encircle thee  
Hawaii nei!  
Be loyal hearts thy might,  
Freedom thy guiding light,  
Forever truth and right,  
Bear glorious sway.

Hawaii ponoi,  
Love all my song shall be,  
Love evermore to thee  
Hawaii nei!  
Aloha, land and sea,  
Aloha, brave and free,  
Aloha, my countrie,  
Aloha, o-e!

"Why don't you marry Mathilde? She loves you and would make you happy. What's the trouble with her?"

"Her past."

"Her past? And what fault do you find with her past?"

"The length of it."

Mr. Newlywed—"Did you say this was pound cake, my dear?"

Mrs. Newlywed—"Yes, precious, and I made it myself."

Mr. Newlywed—"Are you quite sure you—er—pounded it enough?"—Philadelphia Record.

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